

Edmonton Bulletin.

Vol. III.

EDMONTON, N.W.T., SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1882.

No. 6.

TELEGRAPHIC.

BATTLEFORD, May 26th, 1882.

Mail for the west arrived on Wednesday night and left Thursday noon for Edmonton.

The steamer Northcote left for Edmonton on Tuesday morning last.

Perg't-Major Belcher left for Fort Saskatchewan, via Hay Lakes, on Wednesday.

Messrs. Bleeker, Scott, Chisholm and A. Macdonald left for Winnipeg last week.

J. A. McDougall and family, Hugh Bannerman and J. Couture left for Winnipeg on the 19th.

Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney will be here soon.

Col. Irvine and Hayter Reed have been appointed members of the N. W. Council.

Hanlan won the race against Trickett easily by five boat lengths.

The Red and Assiniboine rivers have overflowed their banks and flooded out Winnipeg. The water was three feet deep in Main St. when the mail left. Thirty miles of the C. P. R. track and the bridge were carried away. Also the traffic bridge over Red River. The greatest excitement prevails and a panic in real estate is expected.

The Red River broke up suddenly and submerged all towns along its banks from Fargo down. Emerson was under water for two weeks and the traffic bridge was carried away. The railway was washed out at many places and communication interrupted. Two thousand Canadians are detained at St. Paul in consequence. Railway between Emerson and Winnipeg three feet under water and partly washed away. West of Winnipeg the mail was detained a week. The Assiniboine overflowed its banks and ran over Winnipeg. The Red River carried off the bridge at Broadway and overflowed the town as far as Chief Justice Wood's house. The ice had to be blown up at St. John's to save the college buildings. No mail arrived from south for six days with the prospect that none would be in for another week.

Hudson Bay Co. sold off on the 17th all its Edmonton lots at auction. Ross took 400 and private parties took 416 lots at \$168,680. Ross paid an average of \$100 each and in thirty-six hours had turned them off at an average of \$300 each. They went up to \$600 and \$700 and in some cases \$750. A week later and lots were slow of sale at any price.

Parliament was expected to prorogue on May 9th, and the new elections will be held on June 26th.

Imperial Bank building in Winnipeg burned and loss heavy.

Parnell is released on bail.

Darwin is dead.

Twenty thousand dollars voted for improvements on the Saskatchewan River.

Syndicate has permission to use any pass north of 100 miles from boundary line.

LOCAL.

CHERRY bushes are out in blossom.

VERY few mosquitoes this season yet.

DRIED fish are being brought in from Pigeon Lake.

MR. BRERETON left for Jasper House on Thursday.

THE Goldfinder was at the Miner's Flat at last accounts.

H. MYERS left on Thursday last to settle at the Red Deer River crossing and put on a ferry scow there.

THE news of the flood in Winnipeg seems to have struck the real estate boom here in a very tender place.

A SLIGHT shower on Thursday evening has given the vegetation a fresher appearance. A little more rain would be a benefit.

MR. BAIRD is absent on his monthly visit to Fort Saskatchewan and accordingly there will be no Presbyterian service on Sunday morning. Evening service as usual.

Mr. J. W. Scott of Battleford, has bought out the adjoining claims of Messrs. Turner and Whiteford at Victoria. These claims were taken up before the transfer and the titles are likely to be good.

In reference to Mr. Humberstone's communication, we have to say that our reasons for stating that the timber dues had not been paid on the rails seized was merely that the rails had been seized—not knowing any other reason for which the seizure could legally be made.

WORD was brought in on Wednesday last that a case of infanticide had occurred lately at Lac la Biche, a young unmarried woman named Cardinal being accused of the crime. On suspicion having been aroused a search was made and the body of the lately born child found, having marks showing that it had been strangled to death. Capt. Gagnon left on Thursday to look after the matter.

MR. EDITOR.—I wish to correct a statement which appears in your issue of May 6th, in connection with the seizure of some rails by the Crown Timber Agent, which I was laying up in fence on the 1st of May, wherein you stated that it was discovered the rails were cut without a permit. That is a wrong statement, as no such discovery was ever made or can be made in that instance, and I wish it distinctly understood that the dues were paid on said rails. I was not playing the part of a thief; but some persons' veracity seems to be of a rather questionable character. The matter stands in this way, which the agent's books will show, as I believe they are regularly kept. Last winter I applied for permission to cut both wood and rails, which was granted, by me paying twenty-five cents a cord for wood and two dollars per thousand for rails. As the regulations require returns to be made by the 1st of May the permits which I held for both wood and rails were returned under affidavit all arrears paid, the agent retaining the permits. If that is where the discovery comes in I want to know it. I want to know what he is doing this seizure business on, as the rails he has seized are those I paid the dues on. Or if D. McLeod is running the timber agency in this district I should like to know.

W. HUMBERSTONE.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Weather report for week ending Thursday evening, 25th May, 1882. Reported for the BULLETIN by Mr. Alexander T aylor, observer at Edmonton.

	Max.	Min.
Friday,	44	28
Saturday,	57	31
Sunday,	60	35
Monday,	56	26
Tuesday,	68	34
Wednesday,	62	41
Thursday,	67	34

Barometer 27.654 and rising.

Winds prevailing from the north-west and raw. Highest during week, 14 miles on Friday.

TENDERS.

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to the 15th June next, for the erection of a suit of Offices, brick veneer.

Also for the erection of a Hotel, brick veneer, according to plans and specifications which can be seen at our office.

Tenders will be received separately or in bulk.

A. MACDONALD & Co.

MASONIC.—Saskatchewan Lodge No. 1, U. D. G. R. M.—A regular meeting of the above lodge will be held at the Masonic Hall, Edmonton, on MONDAY, the 29th of May, at 7:30 p.m. sharp. Visiting brethren cordially invited. By order of the W. M.

W. STIFF, Sec'y.

CITY OF SASKATCHEWAN.

Situated at the head of navigation on the west side of the North Saskatchewan River, opposite Fort Saskatchewan, the head-quarter's of the N. W. M. Police.

P. Heiminek, who has the most promising sites in this City, offers great inducements to persons who wish to possess themselves of valuable property in this the great city of the North-West.

The advantages of this site for a city are undisputed and not to be surpassed by any position on the North Saskatchewan, it is the center of five leading highways, viz: Lac la Biche, Battleford, Bow River, Athabasca Peace River and the mining regions of British Columbia, it has full facilities for wharfage and is near to wood and coal, has ample facilities for reaching the timber regions of the North, the situation is dry and pretty and has been chosen for its superior advantages by an experienced government officer as the best and most probable crossing for a railroad on the North Saskatchewan.

All information given and correspondence solicited by the proprietor, as above.

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EDMONTON, N.W.T.,

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Edmonton, N.W.T.

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Manufacturers of

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A. Macdonald & Company Agents, Edmonton.

EDMONTON HOTEL.

The Pioneer House of Entertainment and of Portage la Prairie.

Pemmican and dried buffalo meat has long been a stranger at the table, and its place has been taken by substantial more in keeping with the onward march of civilization.

In the billiard room a refreshing drink of cool Temperance Colonization Beer can always be had.

Good stabling attached.

DONALD ROSS, Proprietor.

GENERAL NEWS.

Jesse James, the notorious train robber was shot dead lately by a detective.

Dr. Schultz has sold property in St. Boniface to the amount of \$250,000.

The Globe heads its report of the proceedings of the Senate "The incubus."

The Toronto carpenters have demanded that their pay be increased to \$2.50 per day.

The Federal Bank will open a branch in Winnipeg shortly, also the Bank of Halifax.

The earnings of the St. Paul and Manitoba road for the first week in March were \$125,000.

Wheat is \$2 at Duck Lake and \$2.25 at Battleford. Potatoes at the latter place are \$2.00.

Mining last season in Cariboo was not a great success. Bad weather is blamed as the cause.

Winnipeg's assessment is expected to reach \$25,000,000 this year. The total debt is about half a million.

The yield of coal in Vancouver's Island in 1881 amounted to 228,357 tons of which 189,323 tons were exported.

The number of patents registered in the patent office, Ottawa, during the month of February amounted to 166.

A terrible blizzard occurred in Dakota about the latter end of March in which many people were frozen to death.

The Winnipeg city council is thinking of purchasing the Assiniboine traffic bridges with a view to making them free.

The produce of the British Columbia fisheries for 1881 amounted to \$1,454,000, more than double that of the previous year.

The votes on the awarding of the Port Moody section of the C.P.R. to Onderdonk & Co. in the Commons stood 55 to 128.

The dismissal of old employees by the Syndicate to make room for American officials is causing intense indignation in Winnipeg.

The worst blizzard ever known in Manitoba was that which occurred on the 6th of March last. The storm lasted for two whole days.

Some of the prominent men of Winnipeg have offered a purse of \$15,000 for a regatta, open to the world, in July next, on the Red river.

The new Saskatchewan steamer of the Winnipeg & Western Transportation Co. is expected to be ready for work by the middle of July.

The charter of the Portage, Westbourne & North-Western railway has been so mutilated by the Dominion Parliament as to make it almost useless.

Wages of white laborers on the C.P.R. in British Columbia are from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day. Board \$4 a week. There does not seem to be much of a boom there.

Town lots in Emory City, British Columbia, the present western terminus of the C.P.R., are offered at private sale at an upset price. Why don't they auction them off?

The Herald says that a private letter from Winnipeg received at Battleford says rumors were rife there that there had been fighting at Qu'Appelle over claim jumping.

Edison is busy perfecting a locomotive to be run by electricity. This will certainly be the motive power of the future, as far ahead of steam as steam is ahead of horse power.

The C.P.R. Company are to be allowed to build by the southern pass if they so desire. What is it that they can not do, as far as the government is concerned, if they so desire?

Six horses were drowned in Kamloops lake in February last by breaking through the ice. Four were attached to the mail sleigh and two to a private conveyance. The mail and passengers were saved.

The report of the Hanlan-Boyd boat race received by this mail says that Hanlan beat easily. An American paper remarks that anyone who bets against Hanlan now merely bets that he will sell the race.

No more grants are to be made to colonization societies in the North-West at present. The size of the tracts is to be limited to six townships, except in the case of the Temperance fraud which is to have 20 townships.

The Supreme Court of British Columbia has decided that it is a Dominion and not a Provincial court. The Lieut.-Governor does not think so and in his speech to Parliament intimates that he is going to have that little matter decided.

At a meeting held at Portage la Prairie lately it was suggested that the Dominion Government should give three months notice of any change about to be made in the land laws. That would take away all chances of an inside track, and is not likely to be looked upon favorably by the government.

During the late fire in Winnipeg some land brokers are said to have obtained access surreptitiously to the books and papers of the Engineering Department of the Syndicate. As a consequence every clerk has been discharged. The Syndicate has determined to locate stations on its own lands only, even if it should be necessary in some cases to change the route of the road.

The people of Keewatin, which is claimed by Ontario and has been given by the Dominion to Manitoba, have held a meeting at which a resolution was passed that in case the matter was not settled soon, one way or the other, a provisional government should be formed and a petition sent to the British Government to have the territory erected into a crown colony independent of the Dominion. Brilliant idea, worthy of Charley Mair!

The C.P.R. Company have published the terms on which they are willing to sell land to colonization societies. The price is to be \$5 an acre of which \$1.25 is paid down. If within five years half of the land purchased is brought under cultivation, no further payment will be required, but if not the balance of \$3.75 will have to be paid. If any portion is brought under cultivation, twice that amount will be considered as paid for, and the balance of the \$5 will have to be paid up on the rest of the land. Quite a contrast to the government plans, but this one was instituted to either settle the country or make money, while those of the government were got up to answer instead of a bribery fund at the next and all future elections.

There has been a discussion in the Canadian Commons about the arms of the Mounted Police. The report of the Indian Department stated that the Indians of the North-West were better armed than the Police, they having Winchester rifles while the Police had only the Snider carbine. His attention being called to this little matter, the Minister of the Interior said that it was proposed to trade with the Indians, paying them the necessary boot. The opposition members, as a matter of course, objected to this, and considerable discussion ensued, but with no result. As a matter of fact the Police in the southern part of the Territories are armed with a superior weapon to that used by the Indians, namely the improved Winchester, and only those in the northern part retain the old Snyder carbine. That such an argument could be held on the floor of the Canadian House of Commons, the man who above all others ought to know taking part in it, shows clearly that ignorance in regard to the North-West is still "stalking through the land."

The Globe has the following item: "A gentleman from this city, Mr. Ambrose White, who took up a large tract of land at Edmonton, Man., last spring, returned on Monday to visit his friends. He stated that he regretted having settled at Edmonton, as living there was too costly. Coal oil cost \$2 to \$2.50 per gallon; bacon, 33 cents per lb.; tea, 60 to 70 cents; sugar, 30 to 33 cents; smoking and chewing tobacco, \$1; dried apples, 25 to 30 cents; and syrup, \$2.75 to \$3.50 per gallon." We are very sorry for Mr. White, that he should have sunk his money in acquiring a large tract of land in this vicinity. If he has really acquired the land and wishes to part with it we will manifest our sympathy by taking it off his hands at an advance on cost, but as no man of the name of White, from Toronto, has ever been settled here and as wild land cannot be acquired by purchase, we think that either Mr. White must have a very vivid imagination or the Globe man has. Further, we beg to remark that Edmonton is not in Manitoba.

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A. MACDONALD,

W. S. ROBERTSON,

JOHN CAMERON.

LOCAL.

TREES are all leafed out now.

MANY enquiries for seed barley and early rose potatoes.

THE Herald spells M. L. Chastellain's name "Shottler."

THE telegraph line began working to Pelly once more on Thursday last.

THE Sturgeon River mill is still grinding night and day, but shuts down on Sundays.

A pig belonging to Mr. J. Rowland was shot and killed last week near the Edmonton Mills.

MR. J. A. MACRAE, of the Indian agency office, got back from Lac la Biche on Monday last.

BUILDING operations are getting slow and will likely remain so until more material arrives.

MESSES. D. McLeod, W. S. Robertson and M. McKinnon left for Bow River on Tuesday last. If they like the place they will probably buy it.

THE late break in the telegraph line between here and Battleford was caused by a number of the poles having been burned down by a prairie fire.

SEEDING at Edmonton, Ft. Saskatchewan and St. Albert is nearly over. All the old land is in crop and all that remains to be put in is new breaking.

FRESH beef steak is 20 cents a pound and roast fifteen. Some people are thinking of substituting dollar bills for beef steak, in order to live more cheaply.

THE first sale of Port Moody lots took place last February, and amounted to \$12,400 on the first day. Port Moody is the western terminus of the C.P.R.

A PRAIRIE fire on the south side on the 24th burned over a large extent of country near the settlement. Some person will get into trouble over this prairie fire business yet.

GAMBLING on horse races and cards which was formerly so common here is getting played out. People go in for something bigger now. Land is both the game and stakes. Nothing small about us.

J. ROWLAND has sold out his claim adjoining Donald McLeod's to that gentleman, for \$12,000, half cash, and the balance when the patent is given. Rowland to retain possession until that time. The frontage is six chains.

W. ROWLAND has sold his place of six chains frontage, between J. Rowland's and K. Macdonald's to C. Stewart for ten thousand dollars, six thousand down and the balance upon receipt of patent. Rowland to retain possession until patent issues.

A ROMAN Catholic church is to be erected on the ridge on the south east bank of the lake between F. Provost's and F. Hart's places on the Horse Hill Plain. The building is to be of logs 20x30. Mr. Provost has the contract for its erection. The name is to be St. Francois.

LAST issue we stated that Mr. K. Macdonald's claim was only six chains wide in the rear. He corrects us and says it is six hundred yards. We regret having made the trifling mistake, but thought at the time we were correct as we took our information from the plan and the survey made last fall by R. Bourne, D.L.S.

DAN NOYES arrived at the Edmonton Mills on Monday night last with two rafts of sawlogs. He left the pinery at the mouth of the White Mud at four o'clock in the morning and got down to the mill at ten o'clock at night—distance 60 miles by water and about 45 by land. He left again on Wednesday for more rafts. He reports the navigation pretty good. The water was not high but the channel was good, and remarkably free from snags. He passed Ledroot on the way stuck on a bar. He was taking his raft to pieces in order to get it off.

LAST Tuesday, as Mr. J. Macauley of the H. B.Co. and a party of others were amusing themselves near the Fort by shooting at a mark, about four and a half inches off the barrel blew off the Winchester rifle they were using while in Mr. Macauley's hands. The bullet, instead of going straight ahead rebounded and passed close to the legs of a boy who was standing at one side and a little behind Mr. Macauley. The accident was probably caused by the bullet not fitting properly

and thereby being stopped in its progress out of the barrel. This is the fifth accident that has happened here with Winchesters, and it looks as if there must be some fault in the manufacture. Fortunately, this time there was no one hurt.

MR. CARSON who has occupied the position of assistant on the Indian Farm at Ft. Pitt, arrived here on Tuesday afternoon last, alone with two oxen and carts and two ponies. He brings a farming outfit and is looking for a good place to locate. He reports the roads getting good and all the creeks fordable except the White Mud a little east of Victoria and the Sturgeon a few miles east of Ft. Saskatchewan. Seeding was well advanced on the Indian farms when he left, the one at Frog Lake having fifty acres in and that at Ft. Pitt about seventy, all on fall plowing. The farm at Ft. Pitt has now about 700 bushels of last year's barley on hand, of first class quality. The Indians in the vicinity are doing well, having from five to twenty-five acres of crop each, and are all well advanced with their work. They are quite industrious, and get no rations except what they work for. Seeding commenced about the 20th of April, and the weather was favorable afterwards.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

Although no great preparations had been made for a celebration of the 24th it was generally observed as a holiday and a number of flag table cloths, etc., were allowed to flap in the breeze in honor of the occasion, the most noticeable being the one displayed from the fort, ornamented with the legend, "H.B.C." On Monday notice had been posted up announcing that a cricket match would take place on the race track at 10 a.m., and went on to say: "After the cricket match, sides will be chosen and a pig hunt organized; the side killing the greatest number of pigs will be exempted from taxes until Edmonton is incorporated as a municipality. The minor sports will then follow. By order of Donald Ross, Honorable Secretary. God save the Queen."

The cricket match, however, did not take place until afternoon as ten o'clock was found to be too early and the ground chosen was on the flat below the fort. The ground was not very smooth and the players were mostly somewhat inexperienced but neither fact lessened the fun in the least. J. A. Petrie and F. Tetu chose sides, and two innings each were played, Petrie's party making 73 and Tetu's 63, leaving the former victors by a majority of ten. The highest scores at one innings on Petrie's side were fourteen made by T. Stuart and thirteen by J. McKay, and on Tetu's eight made by Tetu himself and two sixes made by Verey and Curran. Several on both sides made nothing at all, but in consideration for their friends the publication of their names is suppressed. The bowling was on the whole better than the batting, and a number of the players are prepared to give evidence as to the force with which the ball was propelled both from bat and hand. The game was viewed by about fifty spectators, and finished up about 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Owing to various circumstances the pig hunt did not take place, partly because it would have been contrary to law, although perfectly in accord with justice, and because the greater part of the pigs were gathered together early in the forenoon and taken across the river where they would be out of harm's way, as well as out of the way of harming other people.

To the Editor of the BULLETIN.

SIR.—Will you be kind enough to rectify the error I see in your last issue stating that my claim was only six chains broad in the rear. I wish everyone to understand that 600 yards is what I always claimed as the breadth of my claim in the rear and as I have occupied it now for the last twelve years I now claim the same. I staked this claim in July 1870, and had nobody to dispute points with then. Mr. Wm. Rowland and myself staked our claims together on the above date, and any person or persons encroaching on our said claims must stand the consequences when the time of reckoning comes.

KENNETH MACDONALD.

Edmonton, May 22nd, 1882.

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CANADIAN ALMANAC for 1882 at

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Advertising rates: Five lines, three insertions, \$1.00; Transient advertisements, four cents a line each insertion.

Season advertisements \$1.00 per line.

OLIVER & DUNLOP,
Proprietors.

EDMONTON BULLETIN, MAY 27, 1882

LAND DISPUTES.

The next time the council of the North-West Territories meets for the transaction of business it is to be hoped that an ordinance will be passed defining the rights of settlers on unsurveyed lands in regard to each other. Of course nothing can be done to secure the land to them if the Dominion Government pleases to take it away, but it would be a very simple matter to define clearly how each settler should mark his boundaries, and to give him proprietorship of all inside those boundaries until such time as they are laid down by the general government. It is strange that although the council has been in existence so long and the country has been altogether without surveys, no such measure has been passed. But the time has now arrived that something must be done. There are settlements scattered all over the territories and new ones forming all the time, and if the Dominion Government were ever so willing, it would be impossible, with such an immense district to cover, that every part could be attended to at once. The land is now rated at a high figure. With government land at two dollars an acre all the land occupied by squatters is certainly worth that much, and likely a great deal more, for those first on the ground would naturally take up the best locations. When the land has become valuable enough to dispute about disputes will naturally arise, for each man will try to hold as much and as good land as he can, without regard to the wishes of his neighbor, or whether he encroaches on him or not, especially as the Government does not allow that either have any rights at all before the survey. There is nothing to prevent a man who wishes to do it from shutting a squatter off the best part of the claim which he desires to take, because he is not able to fence and improve it at once; and even if it were fenced, it seems to be a question whether he has proprietary rights or not. But even if improvements do give a right to the land improved, in this country, where mostly poor men are starting, they are unable to improve a large quantity at once. Supposing one of these sees a good piece of land of a hundred acres or so in extent, and settles and improves on one corner of it, intending in future to bring the whole under cultivation, and after he has been there a year or two another comes along and wants to settle there also, there is nothing to hinder him from appropriating as much of the good land as he may wish, cooping the original settler up on the few acres he may have improved, and thereby rendering almost useless to him the time and labor he has already expended on the place; for the object in a man settling is not so much to get a little crop to supply his present wants as to secure enough land to give him a competence in the future.

The Dominion laws make no provision for such cases because if the right of the squatter were recognized by them in any way it would be more difficult to deal with him in future after the surveys were made, but for the local government to pass an ordinance on

the subject would answer all present purposes, and would not at any future time prejudice the case of the Dominion. That the local legislature has power to pass such an act there is no doubt, and there is very little doubt that the Dominion Government would agree to its passage, as a measure that would afford a necessary relief to settlers without embarrassing the Government in any way. It might be fixed in some such way as this: When a person wishes to take up a claim, over two miles back from a large stream, he should stake out half a mile square with the lines running north and south and east and west as nearly as might be, these stakes and lines to hold it against all comers for a certain time, and afterwards certain improvements to be done, coupled with residence, in order to keep legal possession until survey. In case the conditions were not fulfilled the whole or a part might be opened for settlement again. Along rivers and large streams let a ten or twenty chain frontage be allowed with lines running north and south or east and west, with a depth of one or two miles. In case there was a vacant piece not the full size between any two or more claims, that a person wished to take up, let the lines of adjoining claims be the lines of it. Of course such a law as this would be very imperfect but it would be a vast improvement over the state of affairs where there is no law at all, and besides it is about all that can be done under the circumstances.

Although immense tracts of country are to be surveyed this season, the present evil of the squatter's uncertain tenure will not be lessened, for as long as any land is still unsurveyed, unless they are actually prohibited from doing so, people will go on it, and the more valuable the land becomes the more fierce and frequent the disputes will be, and may possibly end in bloodshed as is reported has been the case at Qu'Appelle, and was nearly the case at Edmonton last winter and may actually be at any moment. Land is very valuable and no man is going to give up to another what he considers is his own, and and worth a great deal of money, without a fight, while the lack of a law protecting the settler in his rights is a standing invitation to deprive him of them.

That the people of the North-West have continued on their land so long without disputes being more numerous or severe than they have is greatly to their credit, but it is not to the credit of either the local or Dominion Governments that the population of such a large and important part of the country should be left so long without any protection in their rights of property. If the North-West Council is of any use at all now is the time to demonstrate the fact by passing an ordinance whereby the people over whom they are supposed to rule will be protected alike from unscrupulous outsiders and the greedy ones amongst themselves.

Another phase of this matter is one that has not appeared yet to any considerable extent but is almost certain to now that the boom is on hand. It is that a speculator might go in with a few thousand dollars, right in the heart of the settlement or any place else that he might please, fence in several thousand acres and hold it without further improvement until after the survey was made thereby keeping all regular settlers off it and running a good chance of getting it from the Government in the end; for if the fence will keep one man's property safe it must also keep that of another, unless some exception is made which does not at present exist; and if one squatter is to receive recognition of his rights from the Government another must also. Such action on the part of

any one would undoubtedly be a great drawback to the district in which it was done, besides locking up the land itself. It would then be just as necessary to enact a law that a man should not squat on too much land as it is to enact one that he shall not be squeezed up on too little. Both these evils could be dealt with in the one ordinance and the fact that the general government does not touch the matter at all leaves it peculiarly open for the legislation of the North-West Council. If it is true as reported that its reign is nearly over it could not do anything that would show its utility—if it has any—more than the making of such a law before it has been finally snuffed out.

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